

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGKO 05775 100302Z

12

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 EUR-25 NEA-10 IO-14 ABF-01 TRSE-00 OMB-01

DRC-01 /141 W

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R 100230Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2248

INFO CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 5775

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: AORG, AFIN, SEATO

SUBJECT: SEATO: FY75 BUDGET ESTIMATES

CINCPAC ALSO PASS POLAD

REF: A. BANGKOK 2939 B. BANGKOK 3450 C. BANGKOK A-1, ITEM 4

D. BANGKOK A-66, ITEM 2.A E. BANGKOK A-86, ITEM 3.A.

1. SEATO DISTRIBUTED TO MEMBERS ON APRIL 5 OFFICIAL BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR FY75 WHICH PROPOSE TOTAL BUDGET OF \$1,460,206. DEDUCTING ESTIMATED MISCELLANEOUS INCOME OF \$27,200 WOULD RESULT IN BALANCE PAYABLE BY MEMBER GOVERNMENTS OF \$1,433,006 IN FY75. THE PROPOSED BUDGET IS \$78,033 LESS THAN THAT APPROVED FOR FY74 WHILE BALANCE PAYABLE BY MEMBERS IS \$71,783 LESS THAN FOR PRESENT FY (SEE REF D).

2. AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND PWG REPS HAVE PREVIOUSLY STATED THAT THEIR GOVERNMENTS WOULD NOT CONTRIBUTE MORE FUNDS IN FY75 THAN FOR PRESENT FY. IF SUCH WERE TO BE THE CASE FOR ALL SIX PAYING MEMBERS, BALANCE PAYABLE BY MEMBERS WOULD HAVE TO BE REDUCED BY \$121,200 FOR TOTAL OF \$1,311,806. (REASON FOR THIS IS THAT REDUCTION IN FY75 BUDGET ESTIMATES DOES

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PAGE 02 BANGKO 05775 100302Z

NOT FULLY COMPENSATE FOR LOSS OF FRENCH CONTRIBUTION.)

EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT CHAPTERS I-SALARIES AND ALLOWELCES, III-TRAVEL, V-EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM, AND XII-SPECIAL SERVICES WOULD HAVE TO BEAR BRUNTS OF ANY CUTS.

3. REFTTEL B OUTLINED VARIOUS OPTIONS RE NEW CONTRIBUTION FORMUAL NECESSITATED BY PAKISTAN WITHDRAWAL AND FRENCH NONPAYMENT EFFECTIVE FY75. IN INTEREST OF ATTAINING FAIRER US BUDGETARY SHARES THAN OFFERED BY SECGEN'S PROPOSAL TO INCREASE SHARES ON PRO-RATA BASIS (SEE REFS B AND C), EMBASSY WOULD FAVOR ASSESSING REMAINING SIX PAYING MEMBERS EQUAL PORTIONS OF 21.5 PERCENT WHICH MUST BE MADE UP. FOR THE SAKE OF SIMPLICATION, WE WOULD SUGGEST AN INCREASE OF 3.6 PERCENT FOR THE US WITH THE REMAINING MEMBERS EACH BEING ASSESSED A 3.58 PERCENT INCREASE.

4. RE MATTER OF PERCENTAGE OF BUDGET FOR MILITARY ACTIVITIES, SECGEN HAS PROPOSED THAT, BASED ON PROPORTION OF MILITARY STAFF WITH TOTAL STAFF COMPLEMENT, PERCENTAGE BE FIXED AT 7.14 (SEE REF E). AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND, THE PHILIPPINES, AND THAILAND HAVE APPROVED THE SECGEN'S PROPOSAL. UK REP, ALTHOUGH AWAITING INSTRUCTIONS, ALSO BELIEVES PROPOSAL WILL BE ACCEPTABLE.

5. COPIES OF FY75 BUDGET ESTIMATES POUCHED TO MS. ISOM, EA/RA, UNDER REGISTRY NUMBERS 608920-1, FOR DEPARTMENT'S USE AND TRANSMITTAL TO APPROPRIATE OFFICE IN DOD.

6. ACTIN REQUESTED: INASMUCH AS PWG WILL BEGIN REVIEW OF FY75 BUDGET ESTIMATES ON APRIL 17, WE REQUIRE ASAP GUIDANCE RE A) ABSOLUTE CEILING OF US CONTRIBUTION FOR FY75, B) NEW BEDGET CONTRIBUTION FORMULA AND C) PROPOSED PERCSTAGE OF BUDGET FOR MILITARY ACTIVITIES.
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